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## Hints on Road Work.

### U. S. Office of Public Roads Tells How to Make and Maintain a Model Earth Road.

While American road builders are as capable of constructing good roads as those of any country of the old world, they have not been as loyally supported as the men of those countries in maintaining the highways after completion, and the deplorable state of many hundred thousand miles of road is thus accounted for. County and township officials may at the outset stand the expense of having a road built, but they strenuously object when asked to provide funds to rebuild the road that has been allowed to go to ruin.

It is important that farmers learn of the benefits to be derived from good earth roads; that county boards be impressed with the need of a proper maintenance of the same, and that road builders and overseers learn how best to care for the roads in their charge.

The persistent and powerful enemies of earth roads are water and narrow tires, and the constant effort of the men in charge of the roads should be to guard against destructive effects and their remedy all damage as quickly as possible. The simple implements which have been found to be of greatest assistance in this work are the plow, the drag scraper, the wheel scraper, the road grader, and the split-log drag.

With a sandy soil and a subsoil of clay, or clay and gravel, deep plowing so as to raise and mix the clay with the surface soil and sand will prove beneficial. The combination forms a sand-clay road at a trifling expense. On the other hand, if the road be entirely of sand a mistake will be made if it is plowed unless clay can be added. Such plowing would merely deepen the sand, and at the same time break up the small amount of hard surface material which may have formed. If the subsoil is clay and the surface scant in sand or gravel, plowing should not be resorted to, as it would result in a clay surface rather than one of sand or gravel. A road foreman must know not only what to plow and what not to plow, but how and when to plow. If the road is of the kind which according to the above instructions should be plowed over its whole width, the best method is to run the first furrow in the middle of the road and work out to the sides, thus forming a crown. Results from such plowing are greatest in spring or early summer.

In ditches a plow can be used to good advantage, but should be followed by a scraper or grader. To make wide, deep ditches nothing better than the ordinary drag scraper has yet been devised. For hauls under 100 feet, or in making "fills" it

is especially serviceable. It is a mistake, however, to attempt to handle long haul material with this scraper, as the wheel scraper is better adapted to such work. For hauls of more than 800 feet, a wagon should be used.

The machine most generally used in road work is the grader, or road machine. This machine is especially useful in smoothing and crowning the road and in opening ditches. A clay subsoil under a thin coating of soil should not be disturbed with a grader. It is also a mistake to use a grader indiscriminately and to pull material from ditches upon a sand clay road. Not infrequently turf, soil and silt from ditch bottoms are piled in the middle of the road in a ridge, making mudholes a certainty. It is important in using a grader to avoid building up the road too much at one time. A road gradually built up by frequent use of the grader will last better than if completed at one operation. The foreman frequently thinks his road must be high in the first instance. He piles up material from 10 inches to a foot in depth only to learn, with the arrival of the first rain, that he has furnished the material for as many inches of mud. All material should be brought up in thin layers, each layer well puddled and firmly packed by roller or traffic before the next is added. A common mistake is to crown too high with the road machine on a narrow road.

The split long drag should be used to fill in ruts and smooth the road when not too badly washed. The drag possesses great merit and is so simple in construction and operation that every farmer should have one. A special article will be published later telling how to make and use the drag.

### Florida Senator Dead.

Washington, March 22.—United States Senator William James Bryan, of Florida, died at Providence Hospital at 8:30 o'clock this morning of typhoid fever. It was only 73 days since he took his seat as the successor of the late Senator Stephen R. Mallory, who died December 23d, and 33 days of that time was spent in his fight against disease.

### Famous Confederate Officer Dead.

Richmond, Va., March 22.—Col. John Walter Fairfax died today at his home, Leesylvania, Prince William county, Virginia, in his 80th year. He was a well-known veteran of the civil war, having held the rank of colonel in the Confederate army. In 1864 he succeeded Colonel Sorrel as ranking officer on the staff of General Longstreet. Owing to his dash and gallantry, Colonel Fairfax has been characterized in history as "Longstreet's fighting aide."

Mr. George Heath, of Kershaw, was in town yesterday.

### Orangeburg Lady Fined for Violation of Postal Law.

The State: Mr. S. W. Kingsmore, postoffice inspector, whose headquarters are in Columbia, has been busy the past few weeks and reports in the papers of Orangeburg county show that he has been doing good work. A few days ago Mr. Kingsmore collected a \$10 penalty from a lady of a prominent Orangeburg family for violation of section 484 of the postal laws and regulations, which prohibits placing a higher class of mail matter in that of a lower class.

It is not an infrequent thing for this to occur and while a great many are ignorant of the fact that it is a violation of the law, it means a great loss of revenue to the postoffice department which has modified the regulations so as to let the offenders off with a \$10 penalty instead of airing the matter in the federal courts.

Patrons of rural routes and postoffices should always state fully the contents of all unsealed packages and the postmasters and rural carriers will take pleasure in informing them of the rate of postage on such packages.

### Senator Tillman Quite Ill.

Sunday's State: It was reported from Trenton, S. C., yesterday that Senator B. R. Tillman is quite a sick man. It is said that he is not in an alarming condition, but that he will not be able to return to his duties for some time. Dr. J. W. Babcock, superintendent of the State Hospital for the Insane, who went down to Trenton to see Senator Tillman, came back last night and gave out the following statement:

"Senator Tillman was taken seriously ill Thursday night. He spoke Monday in Washington and after two days at Clemson college he went to his home at Trenton, complaining of the heat. That night he had an attack, evidently due to hard work, and the unusual heat, which produced nervous trouble similar to that from which he suffered three years ago when he consulted eminent specialists in Philadelphia, who found no signs of organic disease. After a short rest the senator was soon at his post again.

"In the present attack the old symptoms of numbness and tingling of the left side have returned, but they are lessening in the last 24 hours."

### Convicted of Killing Negro.

Hartwell, Ga., March 23.—Hugh Wall, white, tried for the murder of John Norris, the latter a negro, was found guilty of voluntary manslaughter and recommended to the mercy of the court. Wall was sentenced to 14 years in the penitentiary.

—Attention is called to new announcement in today's paper by Merchant A. W. Chance.

### Shocking Crime—Man Killed and Robbed His Mother.

Fort Wayne, Ind., March 22.—Grover C. Blake and Orsel Reynolds, of Anderson, Ind., were arrested today on the charge of murdering Blake's mother yesterday at Anderson. Blake made a confession after his arrest, implicating Reynolds. He said he had been drinking with Reynolds and they both needed money. He went home and entered the kitchen where his mother was cooking dinner, according to the confession, Reynolds standing guard outside. Blake says his mother accused him of drinking and he went into another room and got a hammer. He returned, noiselessly, stole up behind her and struck her on the back of the head. She fell insensible. Blake says he then opened her dress and grabbed a bag, fastened around her neck which contained money and jewelry.

### Why the Southern Withdrew Its Funds from Georgia.

Charlotte Observer: The Southern Railway Company has withdrawn all its funds on deposit in Georgia banks, amounting to about half a million dollars, and transferred them over night to Chattanooga. Every depository of the Southern in Georgia is discontinued, money being sent daily to Chattanooga. This action was taken not merely for the general reason that Georgia has come to be a wild State politically and enjoys swatting railroads scarcely less than burning niggers, but for a specific reason. Some Atlanta lawyers, fearing lest the poor old sadly mauled rail road should go broke, have been tying up its funds by garnishments and attachments on damage suits; hence the persecuted money's flight into Tennessee. This is an unpleasant incident to read about and yet we know of nothing better calculated to bring the already fast sobering railroad fighters of this section completely to their senses.

### Shooting of Judge Buchanan

Columbia special in Sunday's News and courier: Capt. H. A. Williams, superintendent of the Southern Railway, Columbia division, stated tonight that he had received a report of the shooting of Judge Buchanan, which occurred on the Southern train from Columbia to Augusta last Monday afternoon, and that it was practically certain that the shot which caused the death of Judge Buchanan was fired by one of two boys, who were known to be shooting at a target near Ward's station that afternoon, although the boys deny that they fired at the exact time the train passed that point. However, it is established according to this report, that two boys were shooting at a target with a parlor rifle, carrying a 22-calibre bullet, on that afternoon.

### Many Farmers Leaving Kentucky on Account of Activity of Night Riders.

Lexington, Ky., March 23.—Because of warning letters and visits from night riders, many farmers in nearly every section of the 42 counties in the white burley tobacco region are destroying their tobacco beds, and at the present time fewer than one-third of the normal number have been started. In many counties huge signs have been erected on buildings and in high places nearby declaring the intention of the farmer not to raise a crop this season. Realizing the difficulty of making a living for their families in case the decision to raise no tobacco is adhered to, many tenant farmers are preparing to move to other states, while many farm owners have placed their property on the market with the avowed purpose of leaving Kentucky.

### Destructive Storm Sweeps Over Three States.

New Orleans, La., 23.—As a result of a heavy wind and rain storm which has raged in portions of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama during the last 24 hours, much property has been destroyed, many persons have been injured and at least one person has been killed.

Cyclones have been reported from East Feliciana parish, Louisiana, and Jefferson Davis county, Mississippi, while much damage has been done in the in the neighborhood of Flomaton, Ala., by heavy rains.

### CHURCH AND DEPOT BLOWN DOWN

West Point, Ga., March 23.—A severe wind storm late today at River View, Ala., blew down the Methodist church and the Chattahoochee Valley Railroad depot, unrooted one store and slightly damaged several other buildings.

### ANOTHER CHURCH DESTROYED.

Columbus, Ga., March 23.—High winds prevailed in Muscogee this afternoon in addition to the rains, and Epworth Methodist church, a frame building, several miles east of the city, was blown down and completely destroyed.

One or two other smaller structures in that vicinity and a good many trees were also blown down.

### Savannah Negro Charged With Sending "Black Hand" Letter.

Savannah, Ga., March 21.—Henry Perry, colored, was arrested today for having sent to Judge Emory Speer, of the United States Court, a "Black Hand" letter, threatening him with death. The letter read:

"The Hon. Judge Speer: You are condemned to die for the good of your country April 15th 1908. Your friend has been named yet may God be with you. "Liberty Justice."

Perry denies his guilt.

—The Camp Creek school, taught by Miss Boyce Rollings, will close with public exercises next Friday night, beginning at 7 o'clock.